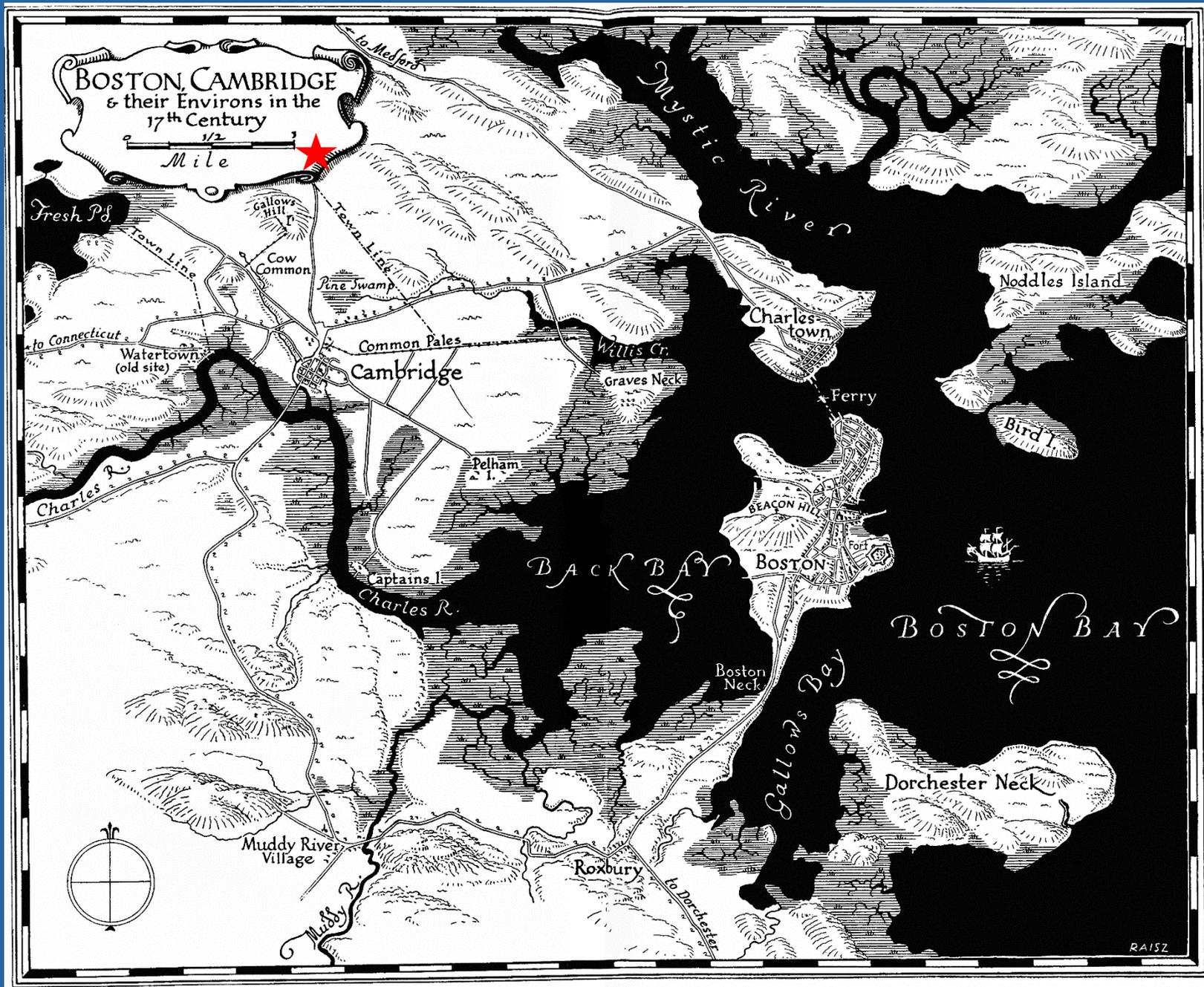
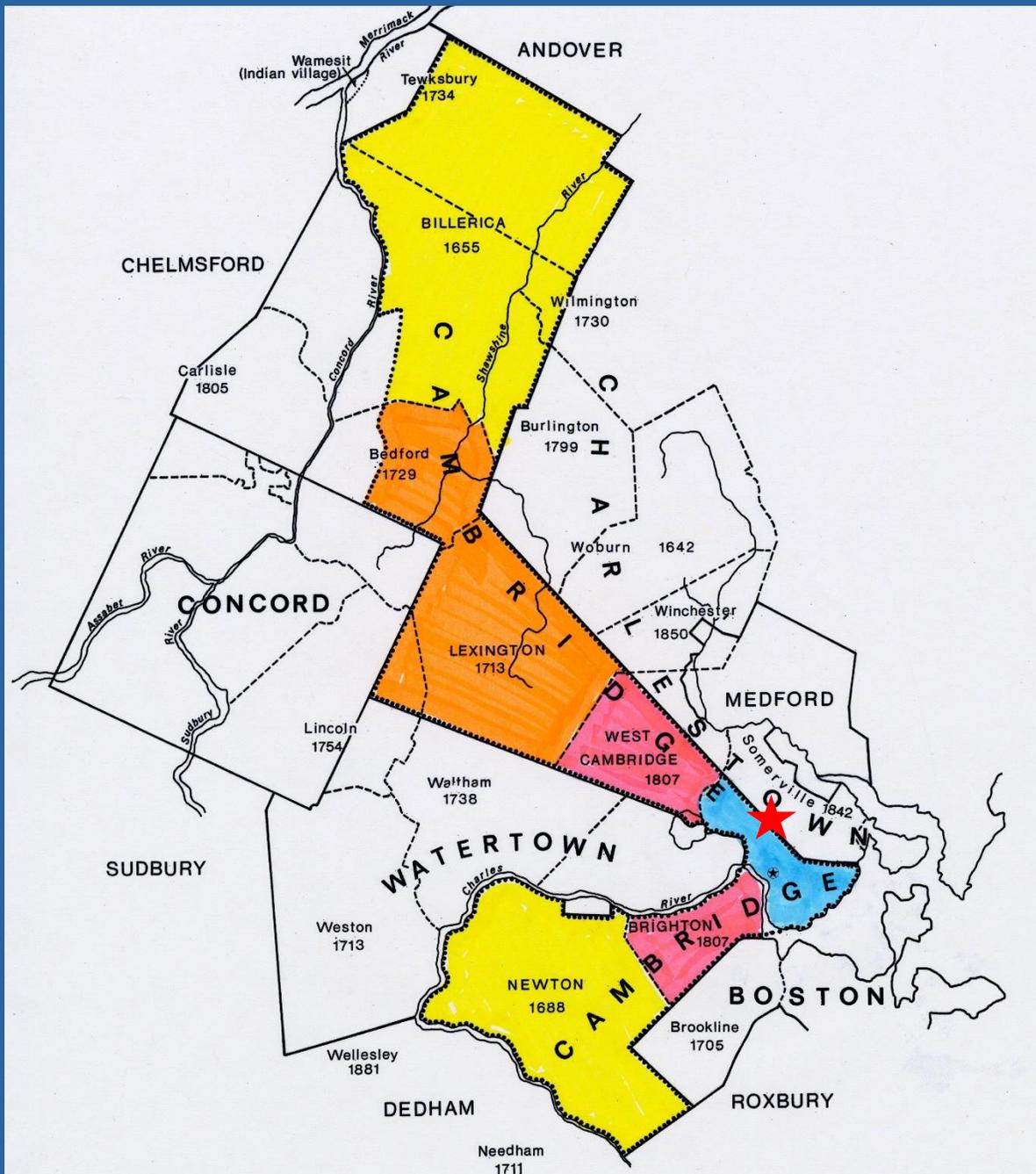


# Porter Square

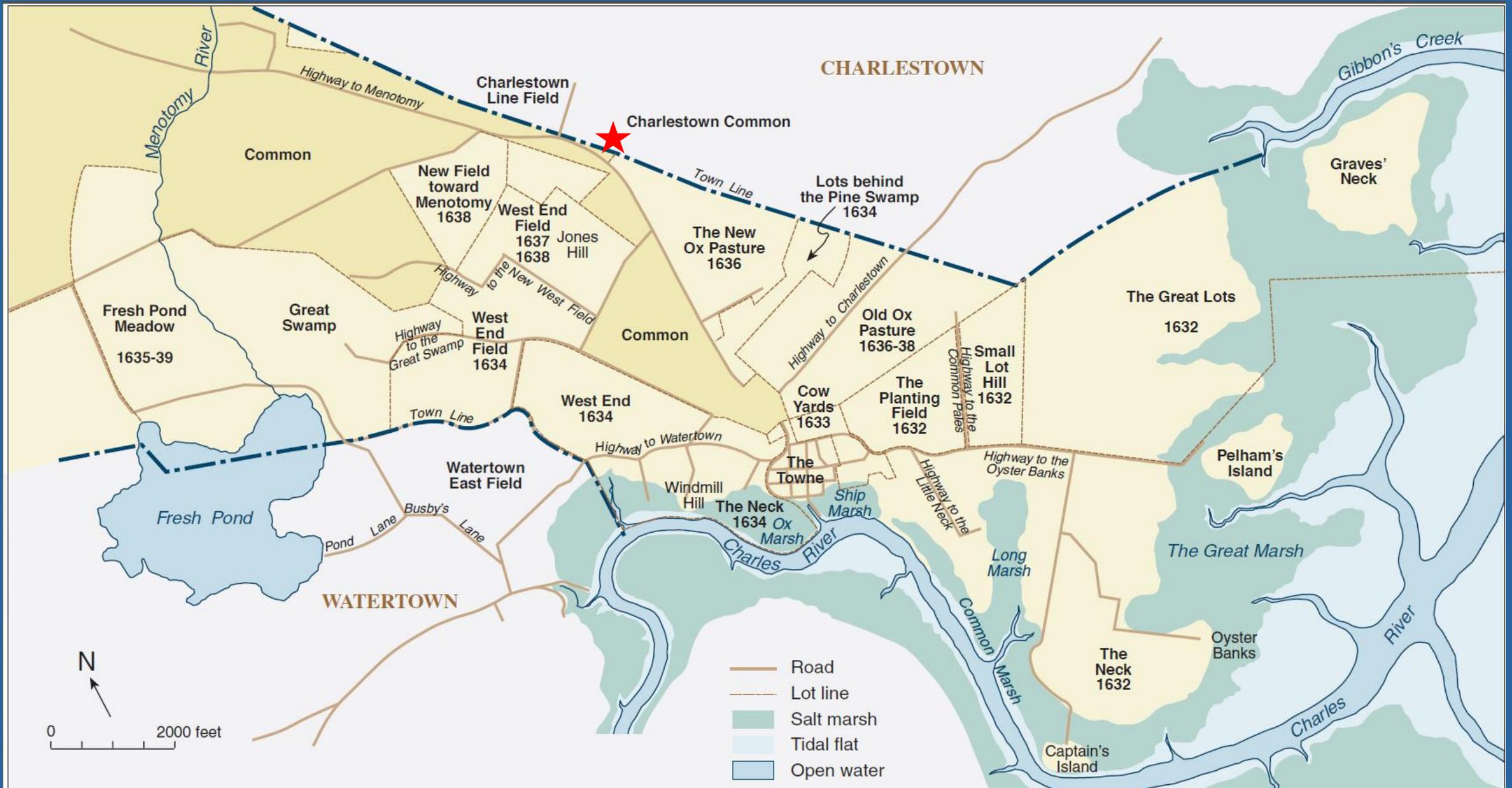
Charles Sullivan  
Cambridge Historical Commission  
June 21, 2018



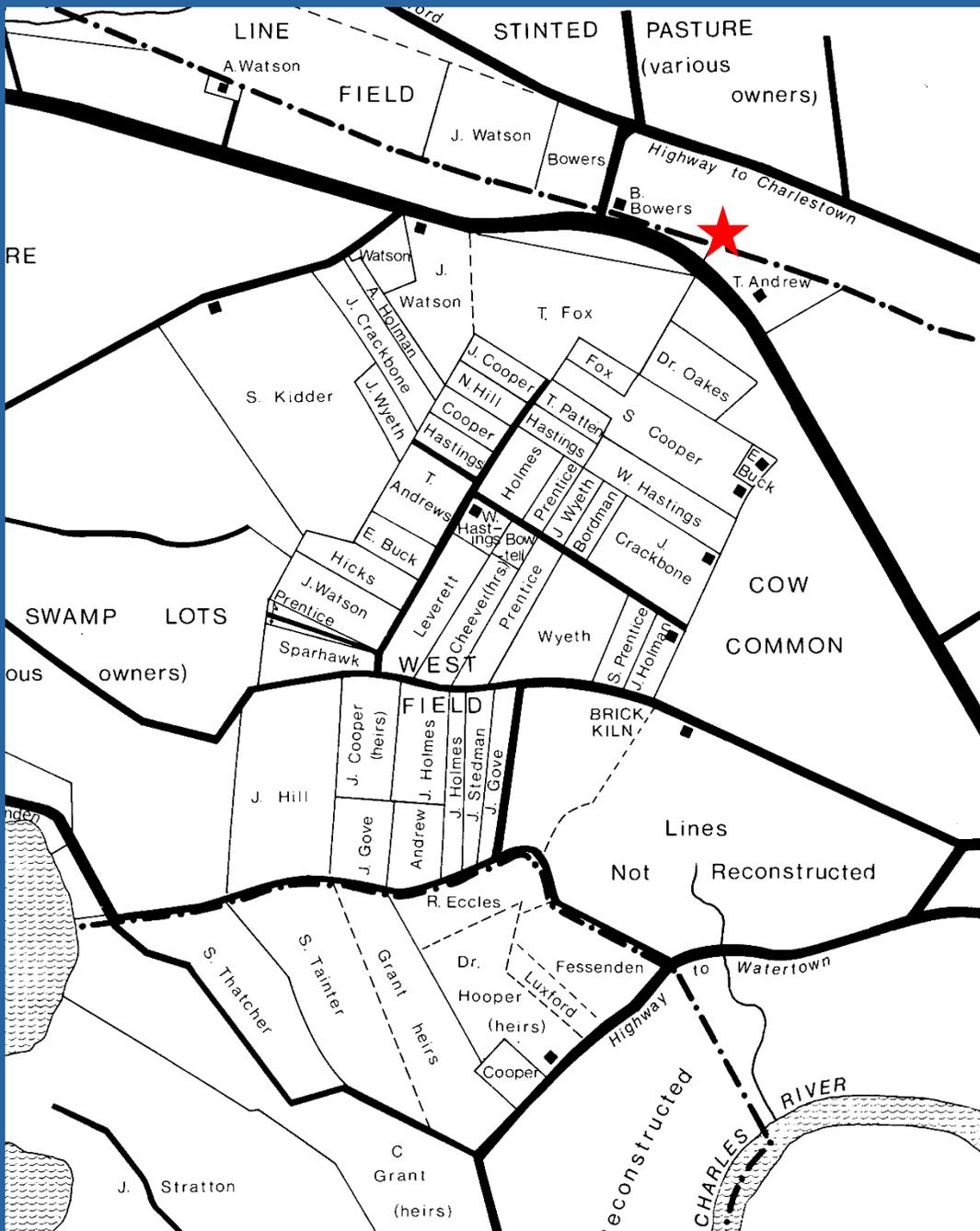
Cambridge, Charlestown  
and Boston about 1640



Cambridge and Charlestown  
at their  
greatest extent  
1655

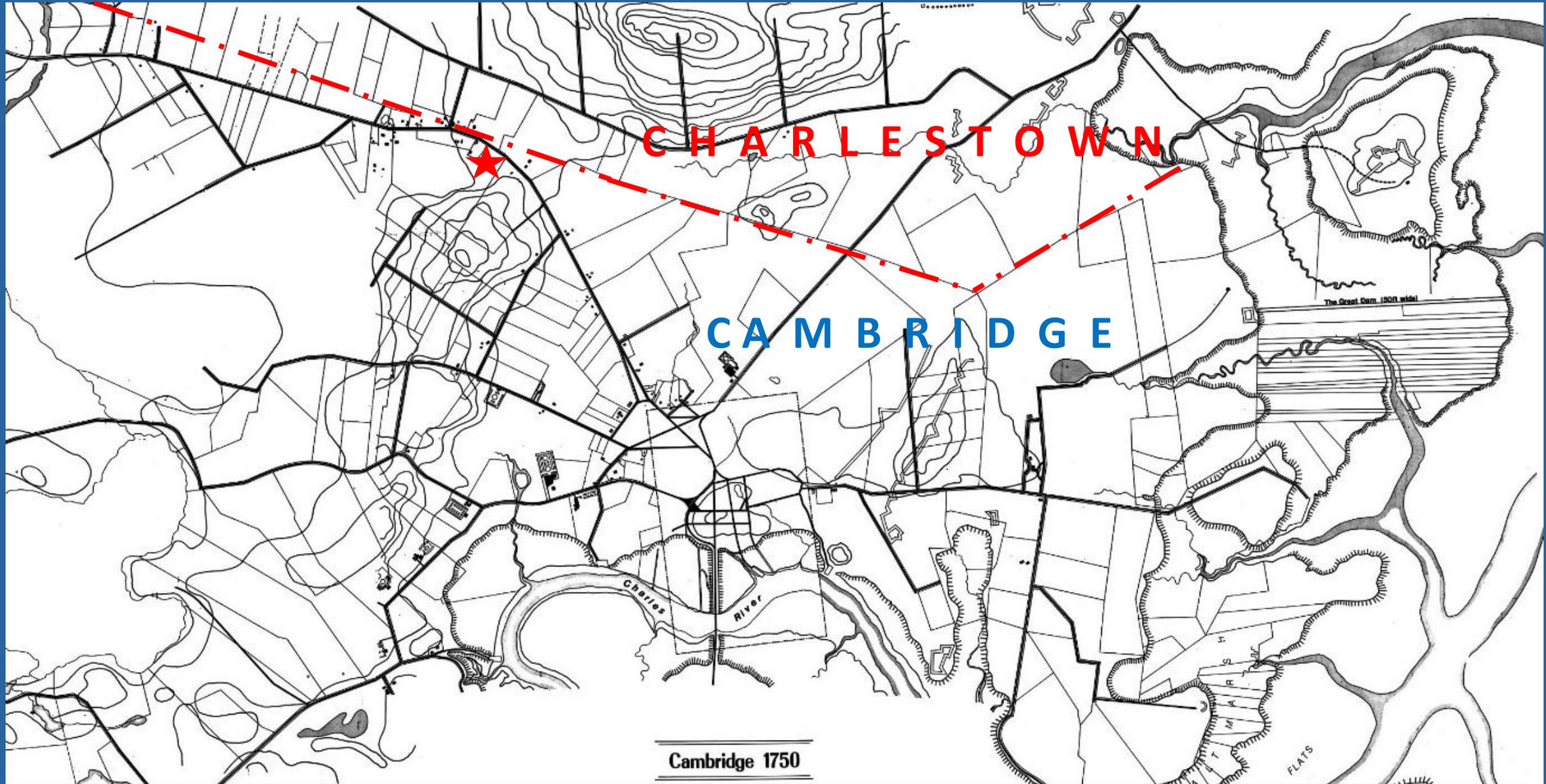


Public Ways and Land Distribution to 1639



Cooper-Frost-Austin house,  
21 Linnaean Street (1681-82)

Property ownership on Jones Hill, 1681



CHARLESTOWN

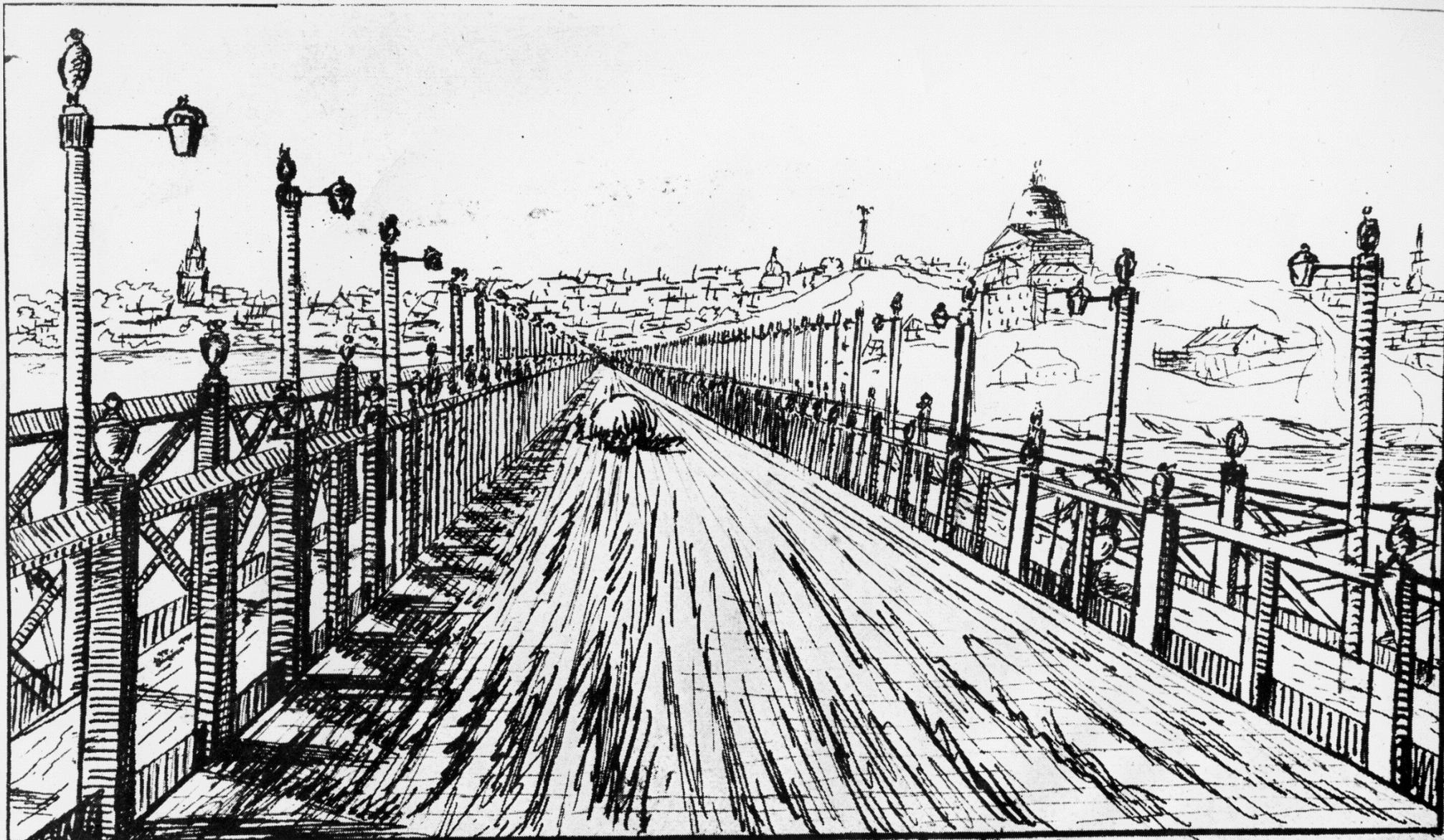
CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge 1750

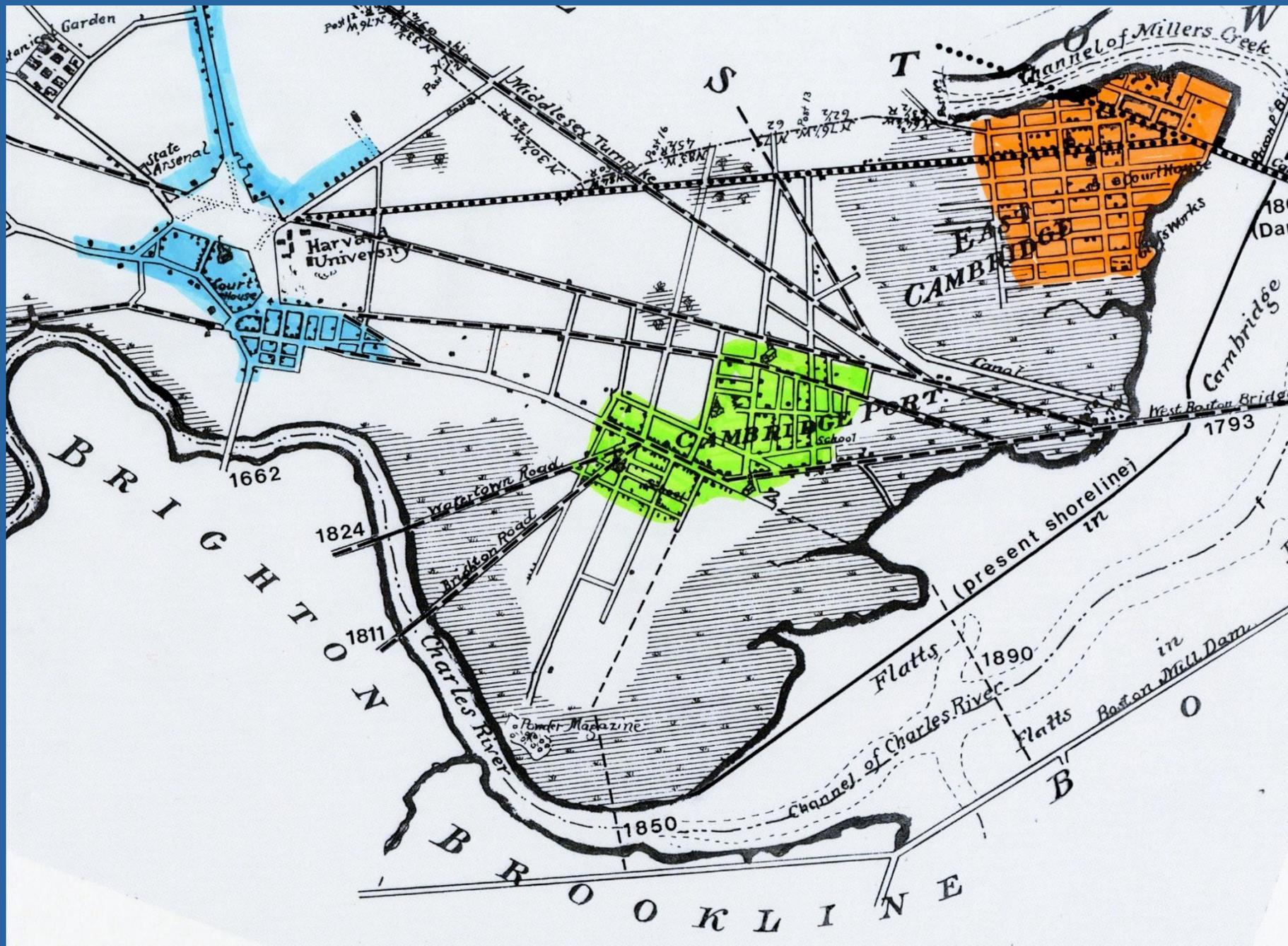
The Great Dam 1801 width

Charles  
River

ST  
M  
A  
R  
S  
H  
FLATS



West Boston  
(Longfellow)  
Bridge  
1793



Three villages  
on the verge  
of dissolution,  
1830

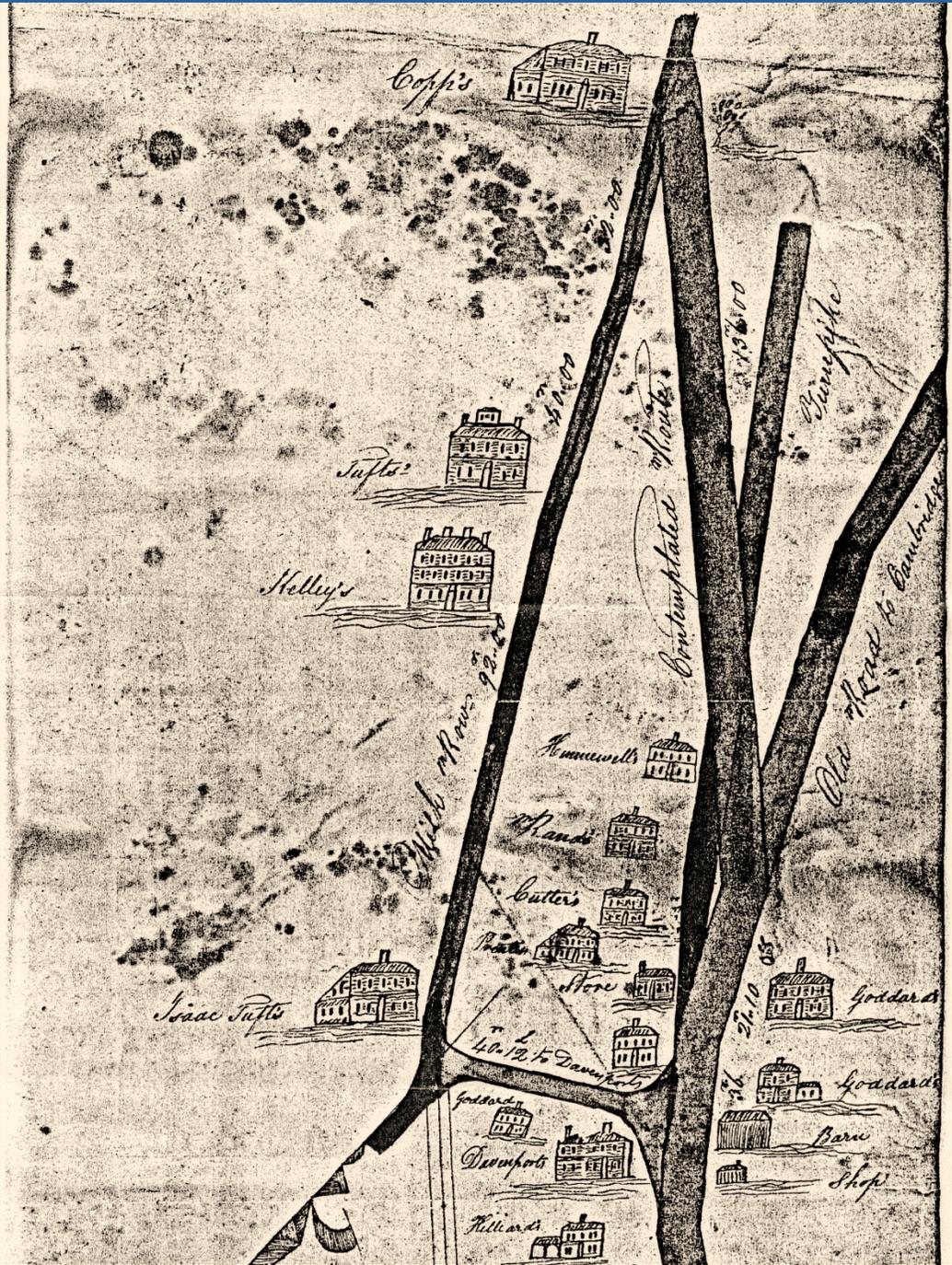


Boundary adjusted 1802

Middlesex Turnpike, 1805

First Parish  
of Cambridge  
1813

Connection between the "Old Road to Cambridge"  
(Massachusetts Avenue) and Milk Row (Somerville Ave., ca. 1805)



Plan of a contemplated alteration in the County  
Road between the house of Learned & the  
house of Simon Copp dec. in Milk Row

Francis Bowman

Plan of contemplated alteration in the County  
Road between the house of Learned and the  
house of Simon Copp dec. in Milk Row

Francis Bowman



Davenport Tavern, ca. 1885



Map of the Water Region of the County of Middlesex ... (1836)



Milk Row

Somerville Avenue  
connection, after 1805

Middlesex Turnpike, 1805



Common

Colleges



Cambridge Common and Waterhouse Street in 1808–9,  
with Avon Hill and the Cooper-Frost-Austin farm in the distance



Porter House Hotel, 1831; demolished 1909

## FRESH POND AND MOUNT AUBURN.



**O**N AND AFTER MONDAY, the 30th inst., Passenger Cars will be run over the Charlestown Branch Railroad to Fresh Pond, in Cambridge, leaving the depot in Charlestown, near the bridge, seven times daily—stopping in Somerville at the Bleachery, near Divinity Hall, (Harvard Colleges) and at North Avenue Bridge, near Porter's (late Murdock's) Cattle Fair Hotel, in Cambridge.

The Trains will start at the following hours :

From Charlestown, 6 and 9, A. M. ; 1, 2, 3, and 6, P. M.

“ Fresh Pond, 7½ and 10, “ 1½, 2½, 5, and 7 “

FARE 12½ CENTS.  

Omnibuses from Boston will leave in time to meet the Cars in Charlestown ; fare 6¼ cents—and will be at Fresh Pond to convey passengers to Mount Auburn, a distance of about one fourth of a mile, if desired ; fare 6¼ cents.

Extra Trains will be run to accommodate parties on giving notice.

EBEN. BARKER, Superintendent.

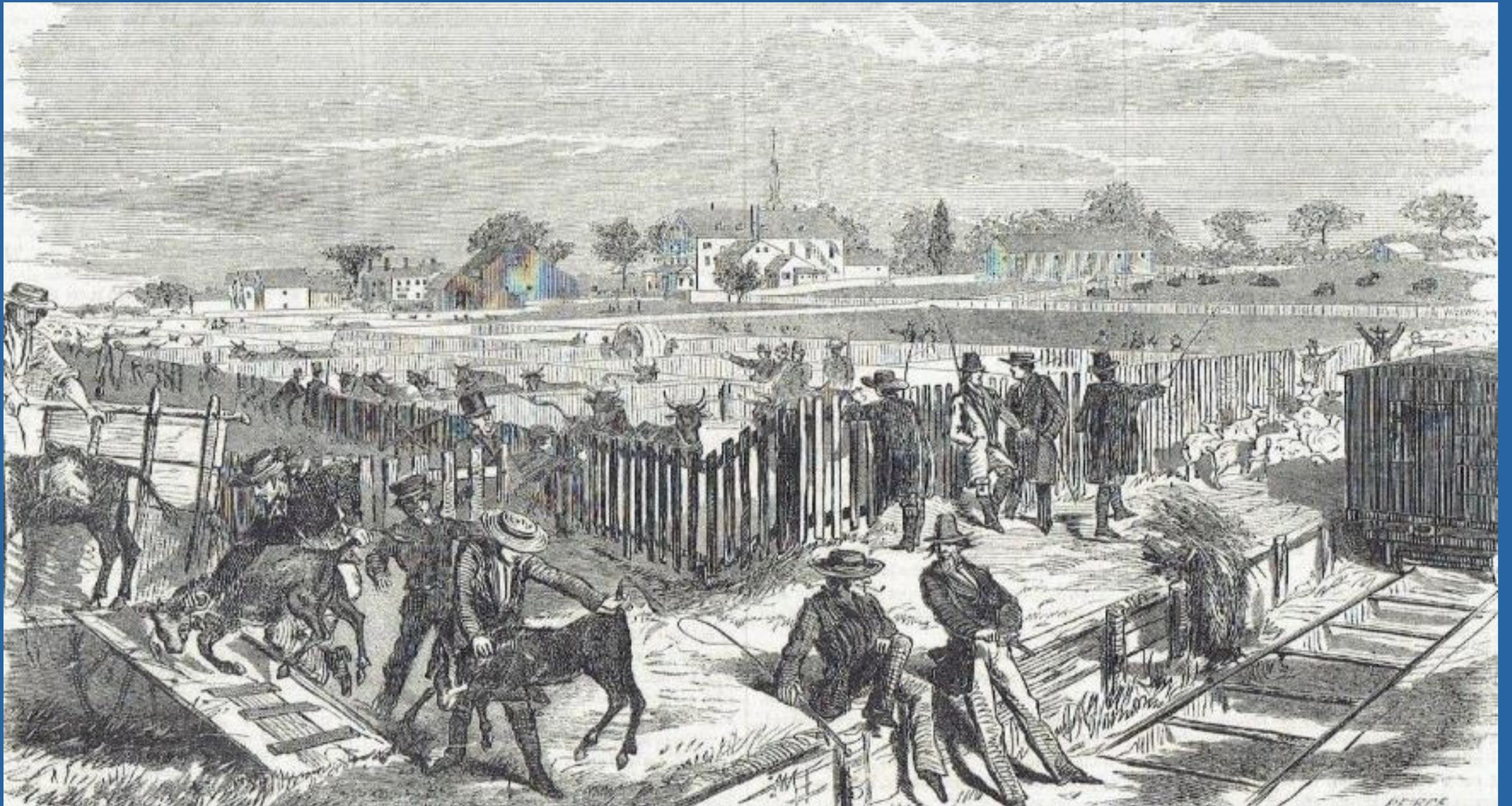
m26

istf

Boston Post, June 14, 1842



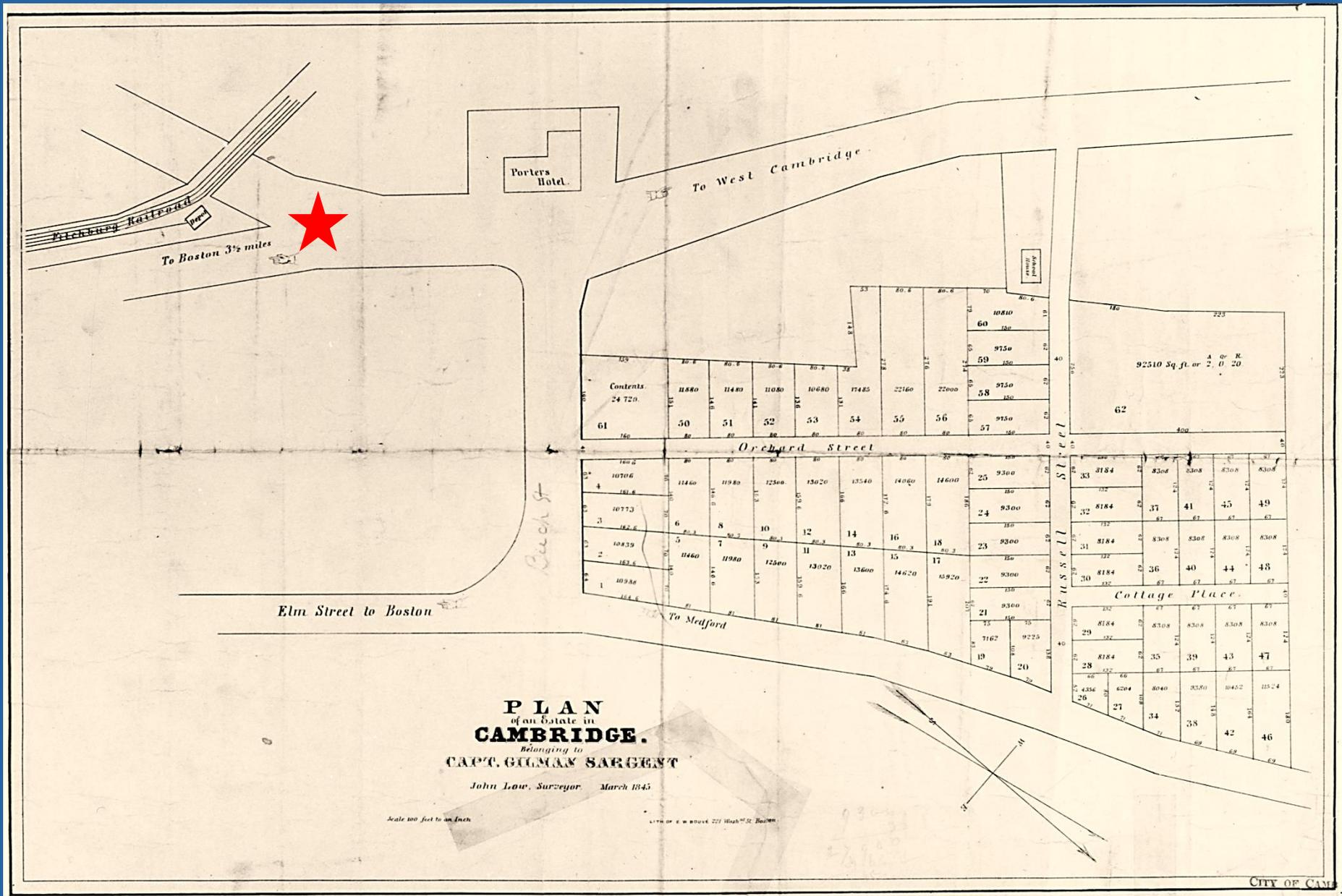
1854



Winslow Homer, "Cambridge Cattle Market" *Ballou's Pictorial*, 1859



Cattle Pass under  
Walden Street  
2009

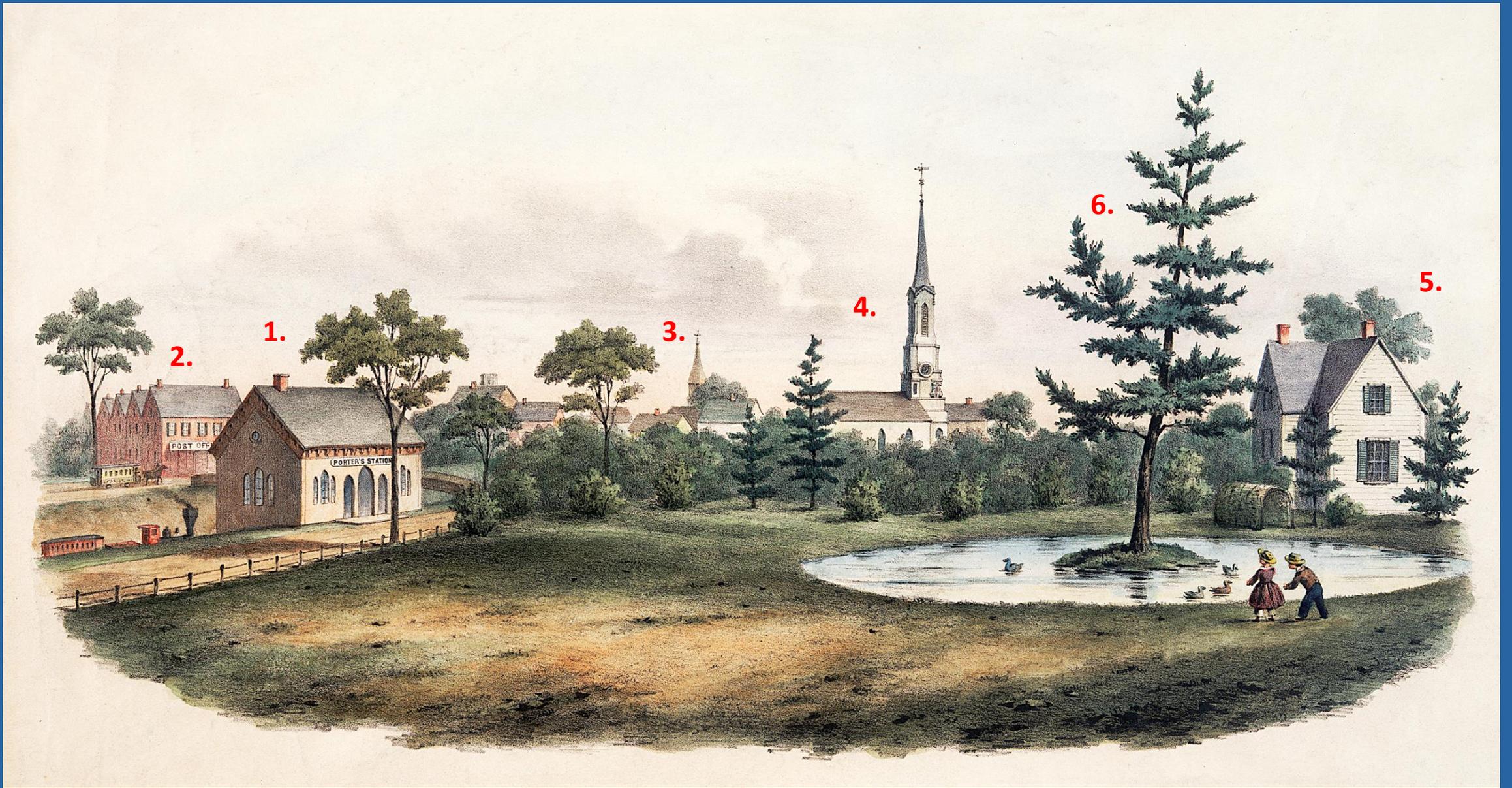


Plan of an Estate in Cambridge (1845)



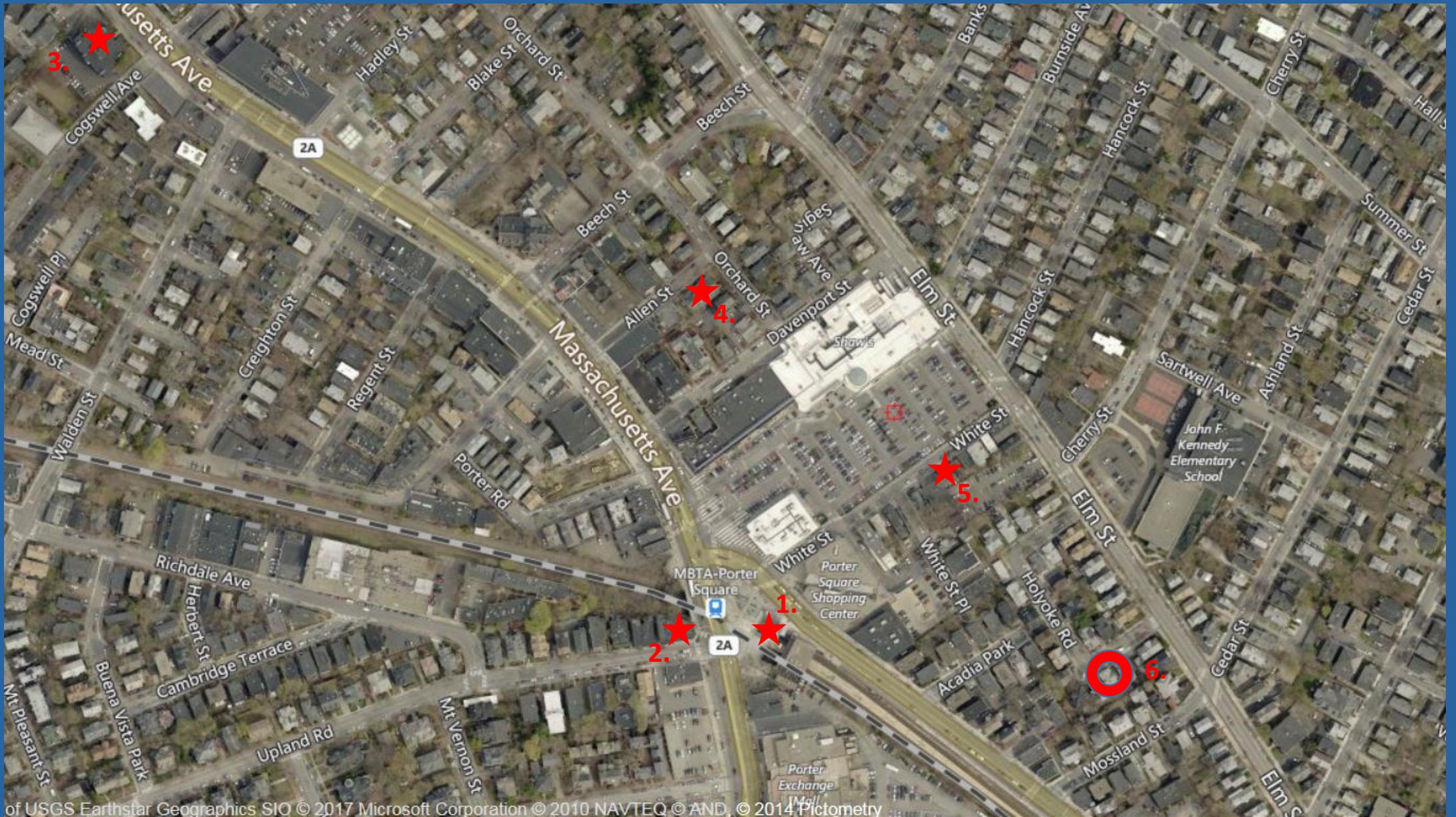
Porter's Station, North Cambridge, ca. 1870

Boston Athenæum. [*Porter's Station, Cambridge, Mass.*], hand-colored lithograph, n.d.



Porter's Station, North Cambridge, ca. 1870

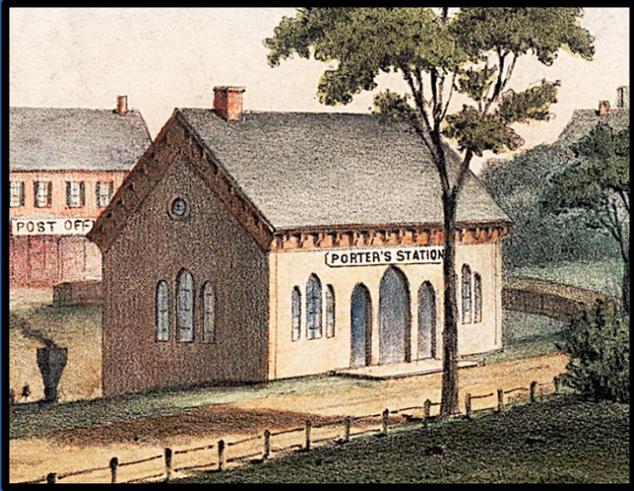
Boston Athenæum. [*Porter's Station, Cambridge, Mass.*], hand-colored lithograph, n.d.



1.



Cambridge's first railroad station, built by the Fitchburg Railroad in 1844; second story added later. Photo ca. 1865



1.



St. James's Church Coffee Rooms (center portion), 54-60 Cedar Street. Fitchburg R.R. station moved to this location and expanded, 1887. Photo ca. 1975.

1.



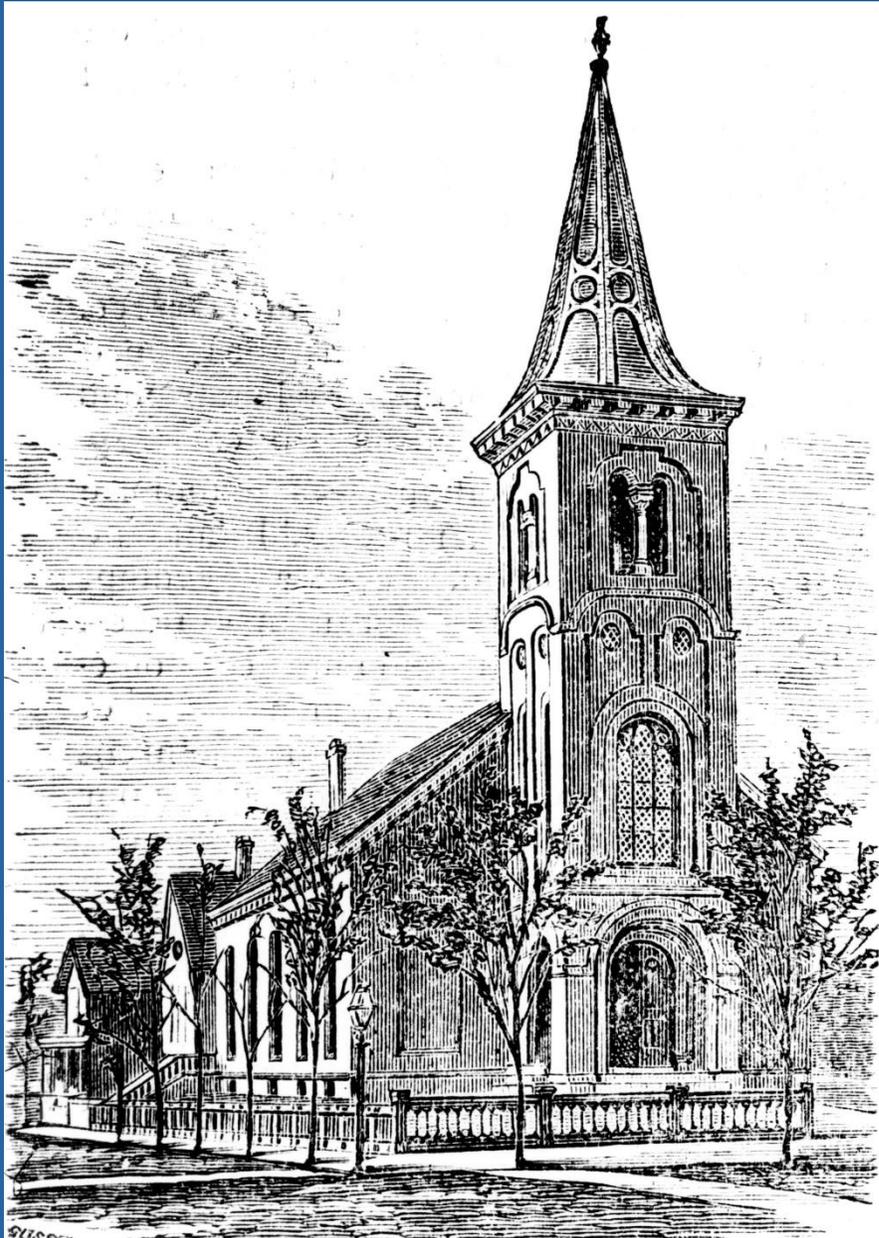
54-60 Cedar Street. Photo 2016.



2.

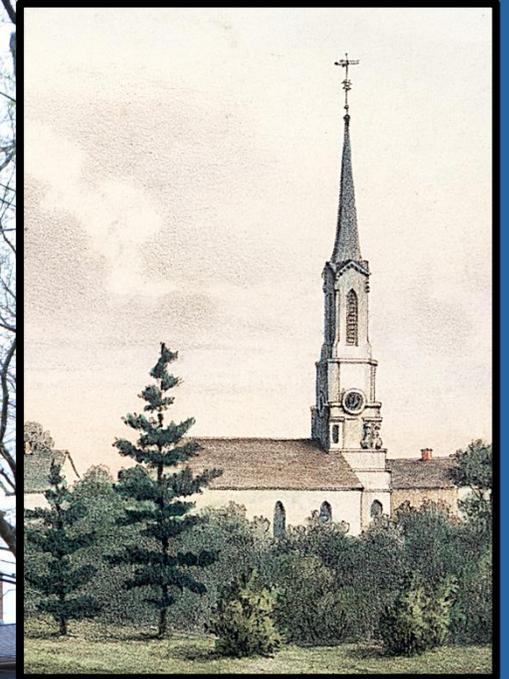


J. S. Becker Co. Store, 1876 Massachusetts Avenue (1851). Photo ca. 1895.



3.

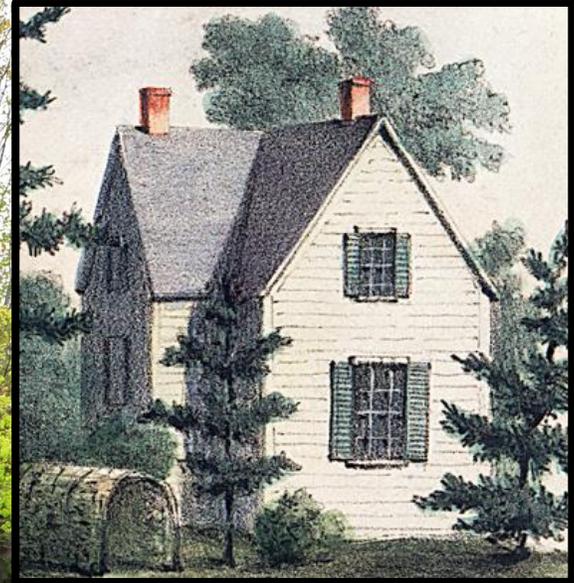
North Cambridge Baptist Church,  
2114 Massachusetts Avenue  
(1854, Alexander R. Estey, architect)



4.

Former North Cambridge Unitarian Church (1865; changed to row houses, 1886)

5.



44 White Street, Somerville



6.

**Large and Important Sale of Real Estate  
near Porter's Station, of Houses and  
Elegant Building Lots**

— IN —

**SOMERVILLE,**

KNOWN AS

**PINE ISLAND COTTAGE.**

**And also the Building Lots adjoining  
the same.**

 WEDNESDAY, Dec. 14, at 2½ o'clock, P. M., on the Premises, will be sold the Homestead known as the **"PINE ISLAND COTTAGE,"** with 12 eligible Building Lots, containing 5000 to 13,000 square feet of Land each, located on Elm Street and **PINE ISLAND TERRACE,** near the boundary line between North Cambridge and Somerville, and within a few rods of Porter's Station, on the Fitchburg Railroad.

The sale will commence with the Homestead, which is a two-story House, with wings on either side, and from the windows you have a fine view of **PINE ISLAND POND,** which is filled with Gold Fish, "millions in number." There are 13 large and airy rooms in thorough order, and the House is supplied with Gas, Furnace, Water, Range, &c. There is also connected with the house a Barn, Carriage House, Henery, and all the necessary Outbuildings. About 17,000 square feet of Land go with the House, and the grounds are all covered with choice Fruit, Shade, and Ornamental Trees. The Building Lots are exceedingly eligible for the erection of a class of residences similar to those recently built on the other side of the railroad. They are accessible every hour in the day by steam cars and the horse cars pass the door every half hour until midnight. The neighborhood is unexceptionable, and in close proximity to Schools, Churches, and Stores.

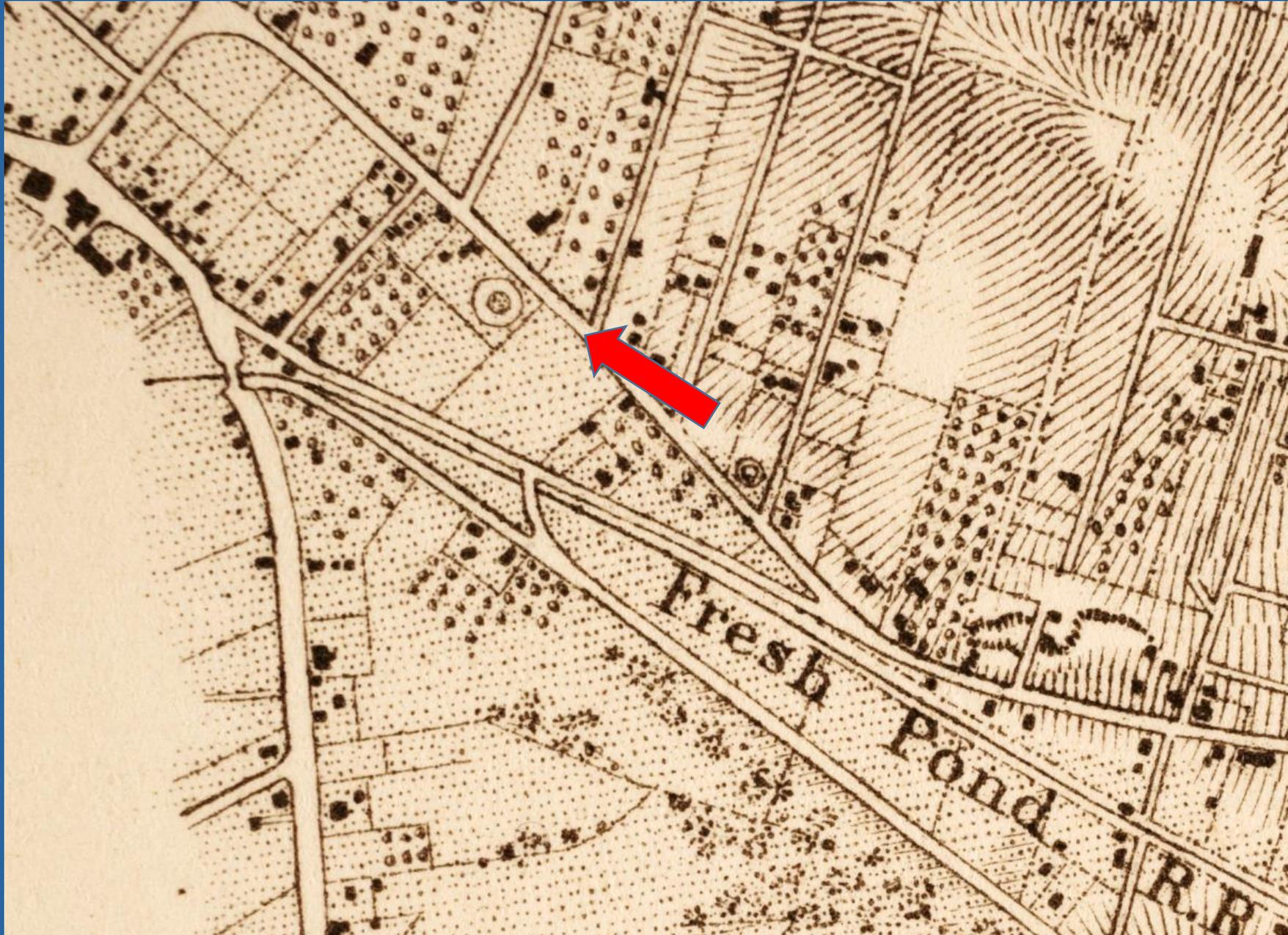
The sale is peremptory, and on the most favorable terms of payment.

Terms of sale easy. \$200 to be paid down at the time and place of sale on the Homestead, and \$100 on each lot of land.

Further particulars, inquire of the Auctioneers, or at **PINE ISLAND COTTAGE** of **B. DICKINSON,** Esq., on the premises, where plans of the Estate may be seen.

dec 10—1w\*

*Cambridge Chronicle*  
Dec. 10, 1870



Porter Square  
as surveyed  
in 1847

Arrow indicates  
Pine Island and  
direction of view



Porter's Station, North Cambridge, ca. 1870

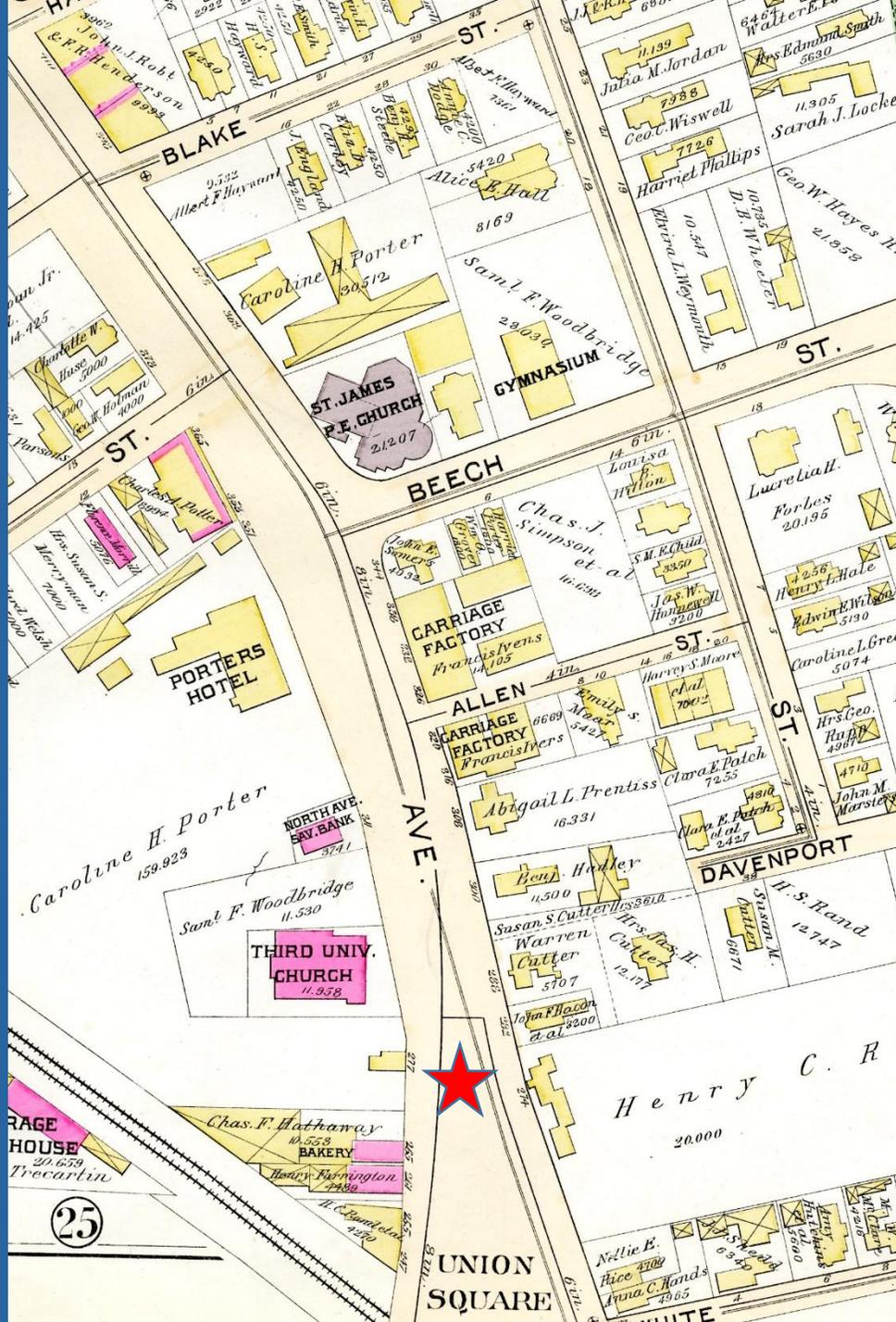
Boston Athenæum. [*Porter's Station, Cambridge, Mass.*], hand-colored lithograph, n.d.



Street Railways  
1865



North Avenue looking north from Cambridge Common about 1875



1894



Porter Square  
Station (1897)  
Demolished 1938



St. James's Church (1888, Henry Congdon, architect)



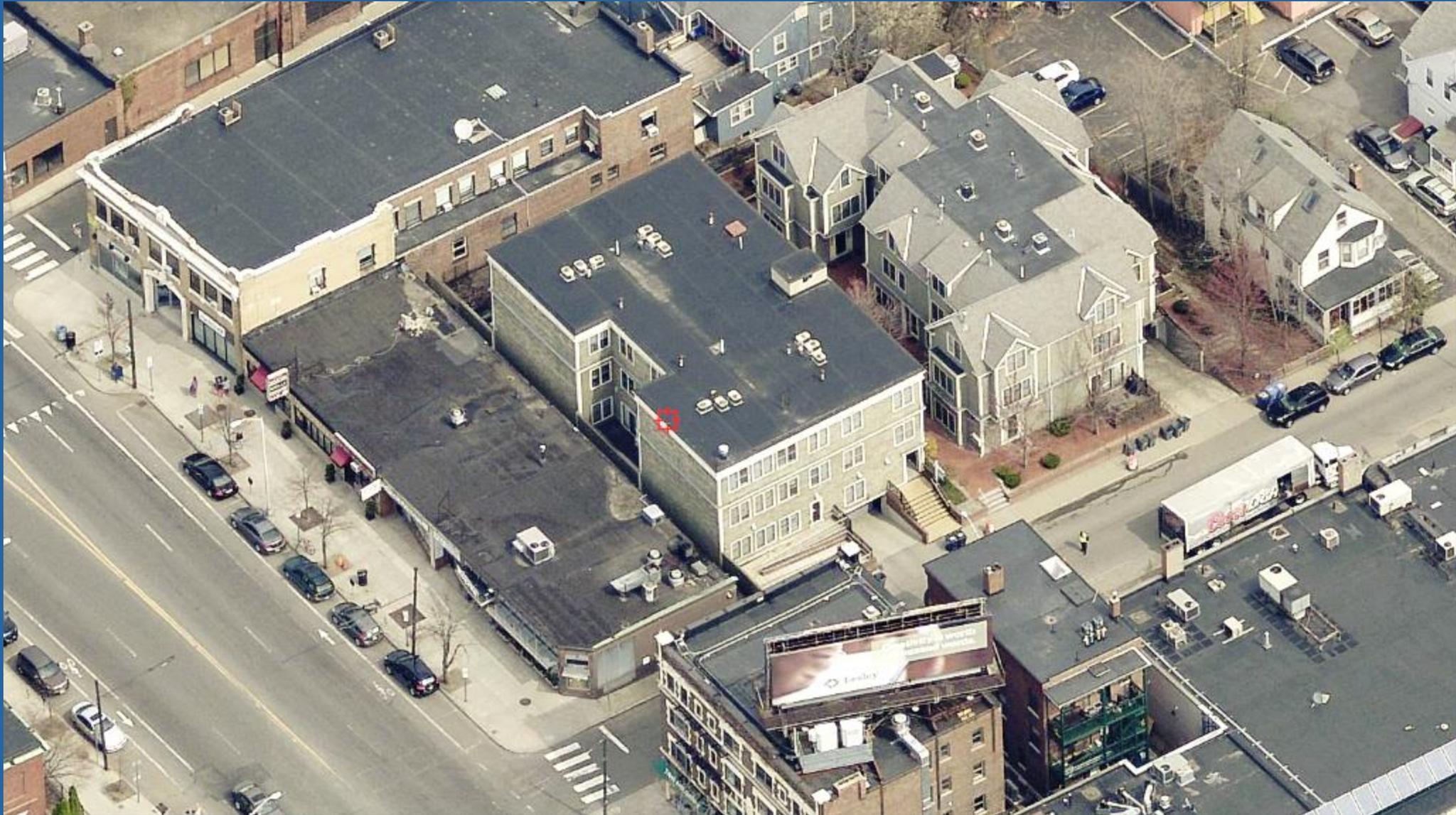
Newtowne Club  
(1895)  
Massachusetts Ave.  
at Davenport Street  
Demolished 1994



Stillman Kelley house  
26 Washington Ave.  
1887



Henry Yerxa house  
37 Lancaster St.  
1887





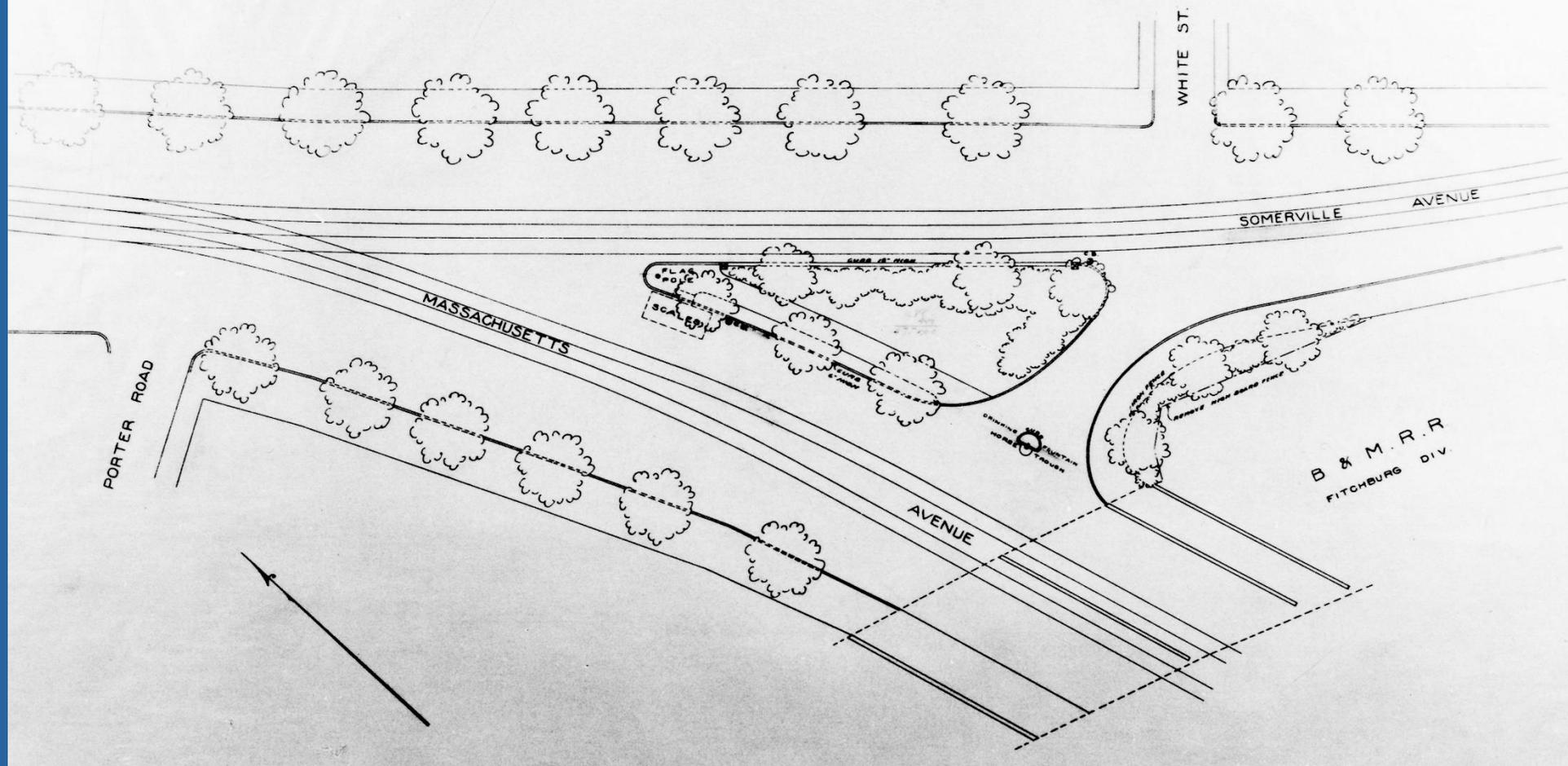
Porter Square, ca. 1900

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE PARK COMMISSION

# PORTER SQUARE PRELIMINARY PLAN

SCALE  
10 0 50 100

OLMSTED BROTHERS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS.  
BROOKLINE MASS. JUNE 26, 1901.



Cambridge Park Commission Plan (1901, Olmsted Brothers)



Porter Square, 1928

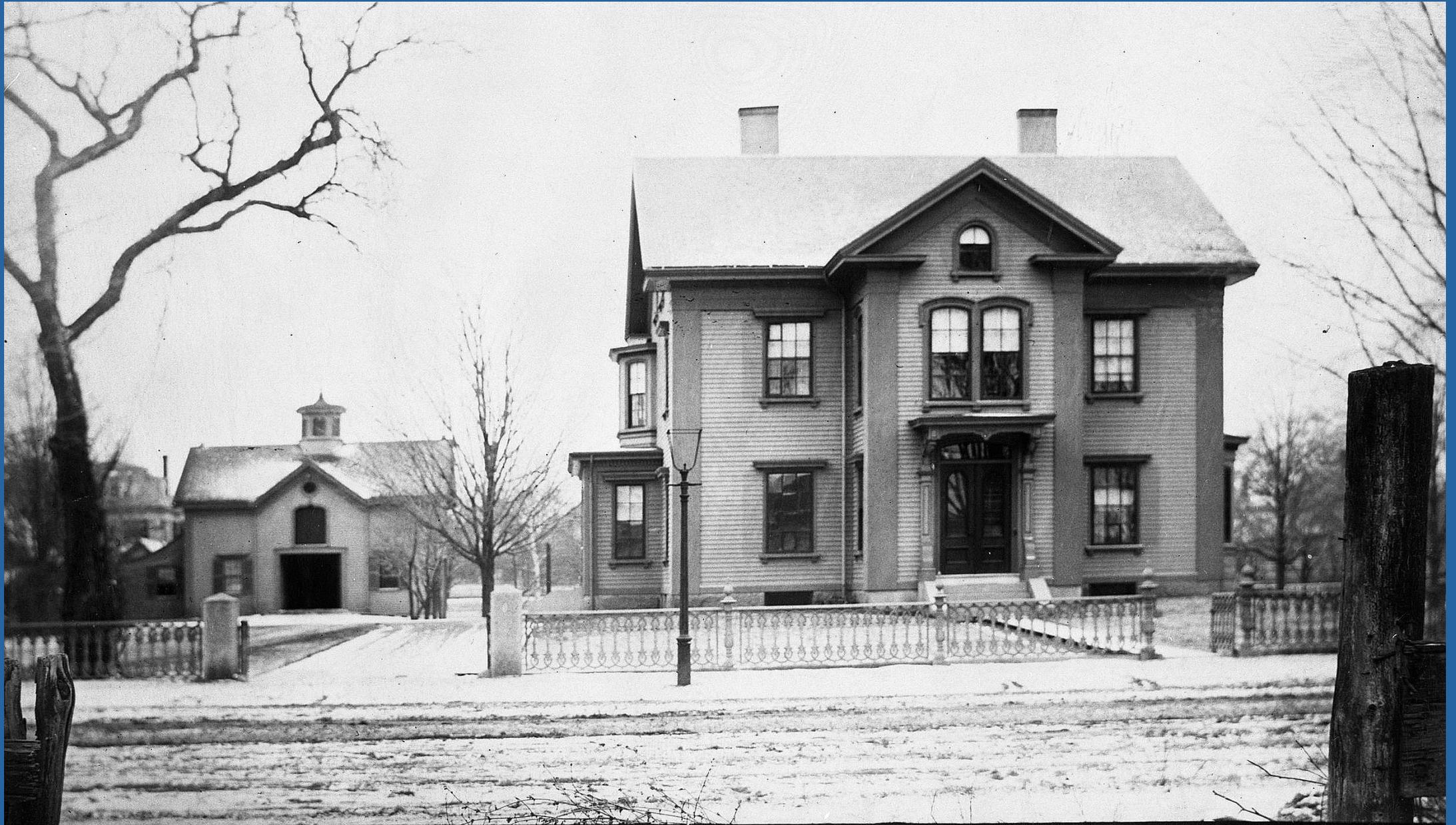


Porter Square, 1951



Porter Square, 1951





Rand estate, 112 Elm Street



Rand Estate, looking toward Somerville



Henry Rand estate from Elm Street toward Porter Square  
and the Third Universalist Church, ca. 1900

Third Universalist Church,  
1924 Massachusetts Ave.  
(1875, Ware & Van Brunt, architects)





1965



Porter Square Shopping Center, 1956.  
Photo 1984.



Porter Square,  
ca. 1950



Mass. Dept. of Public Works,  
*Basic Design Report, Relocated Route 2, Arlington-Cambridge-Somerville (1968)*

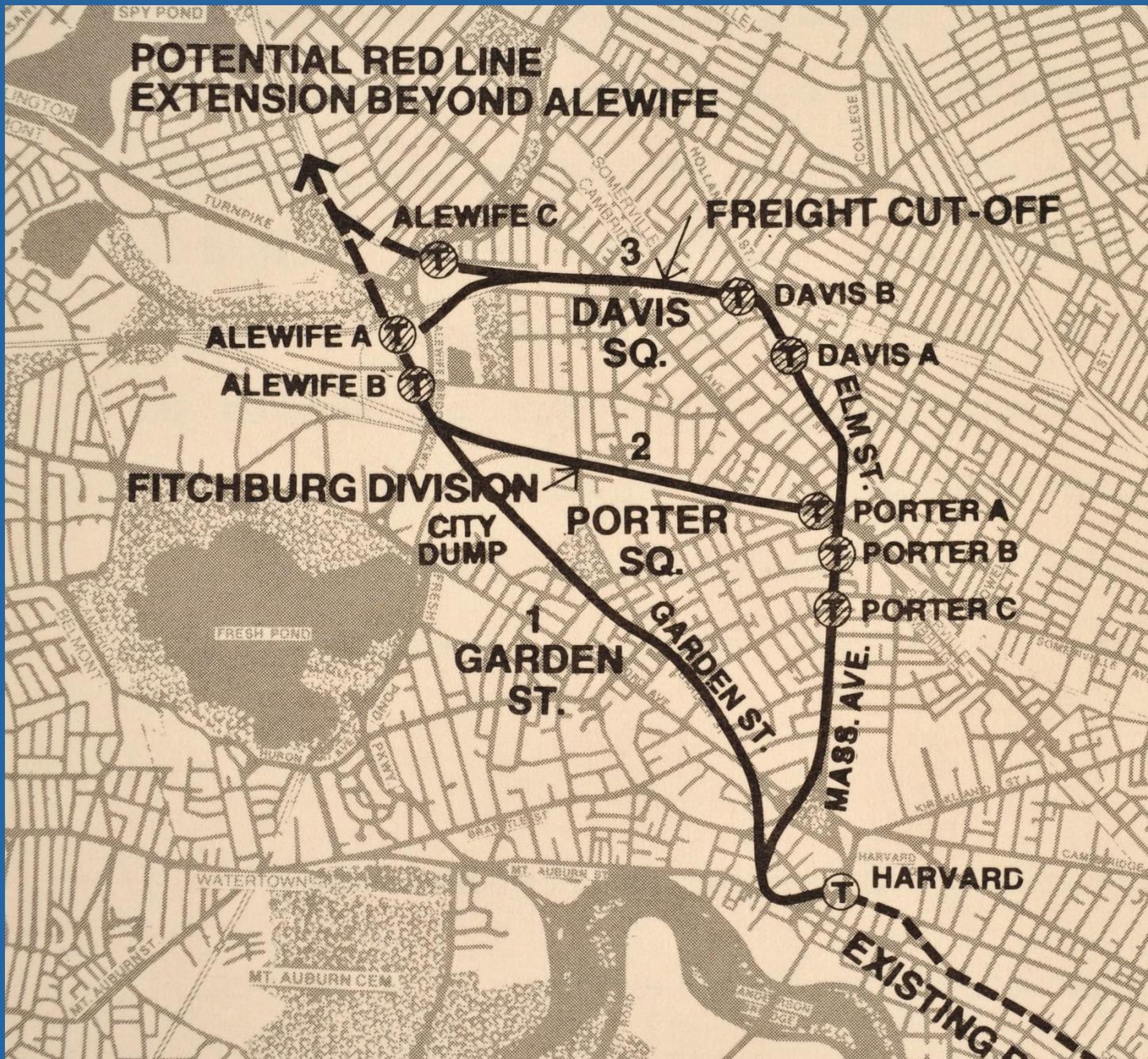


THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

UNIVERSAL ENGINEERING CORP.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

INTERCHANGE AT  
PORTER SQUARE

RELOCATED ROUTE 2  
SCHEME B



Red Line Extension  
Alternative Routes  
ca. 1970

